Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02 EB-08 TRSE-00 MCE-00 /087 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:COCECIL:RG
APPROVED BY PM/SAS:HMCELROY
AF/W:TWMSMITH (SUBS)
ACDA:RDUTER (SUBS)
DOD/DSAA:HFISH
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
PM/MC

-----110605 220324Z /63

R 212236Z FEB 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 044693

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, NG

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR C-130S

REF: (A) NIAMEY 640 (B) 77 STATE 207984 (C) 77 STATE 252478

1. NIGER IS ELIGIBLE FOR FMS. HOWEVER, WE SEE NO PROSPECT THAT NIGER COULD OBTAIN FMS CREDIT FINANCING FOR A C-130 PURCHASE. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKELY APPROVE CASH SALE OF TWO C-130 AIRCRAFT TO GON. SUCH A SALE COULD RUN IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF \$19-20 MILLION, DEPENDING ON SPARE PARTS, TRAINING, AND SUPPORT REQUIRED. SALE COULD BE CONSUMMATED EITHER THROUGH COMMERCIAL OR CONFIDENTIAL

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FMS (GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT) CHANNELS. SINCE C-130 AIRCRAFT ARE CONSIDERED "MAJOR DEFENSE EQUIPMENT", LAW PROVIDES THAT AN FMS SALE EXCEEDING \$7 MILLION MUST BE NOTIFIED TO THE CONGRESS FOR A 30-DAY REVIEW PERIOD (PRECEDED BY AN ADVANCE, INFORMAL NOTIFICATION PERIOD OF 20 DAYS). SHOULD BOTH HOUSES ADOPT RESOLUTIONS OPPOSING THE SALE (A PROSPECT WE DEEM UNLIKELY IN THIS CASE), SALE

CANNOT PROCEED. IN CASE OF STRAIGHT COMMERCIAL SALE, LAW PROVIDES THAT CONGRESS MUST BE NOTIFIED 30 DAYS PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF EXPORT LICENSE, BUT THERE IS NO CONGRESSIONAL VETO

- 2. IF GON WISHES TO PURSUE PURCHASE OF C-130S THROUGH COMMERCIAL CHANNELS, RECOMMEND GON INSTRUCT ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO MAKE ITS INTEREST KNOWN TO LOCKHEED, WHICH MAINTAINS WASHINGTON OFFICE. IF GON WISHES TO PURCHASE VIA FMS CHANNELS, NEXT STEP WOULD BE TO REQUEST PRICE AND AVAILABILITY (P AND A) DATA, PREPARATION OF WHICH NORMALLY TAKES 60 DAYS FOLLOWING DEPARTMENT APPROVAL. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFS B AND C, REQUEST FOR P AND A DATA MUST INCLUDE EMBASSY ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL SALE, WITH ANSWERS TO AS MANY QUESTIONS IN PARA 5E, REF B AS POSSIBLE. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO INCLUDE SECDEF AND CSAF AS INFO ADDRESSEES ON SUCH A REQUEST.
- 3. IF AFTER STUDYING P AND A DATA GON WISHES TO HAVE FORMAL FMS PROPOSAL (CALLED LOA, OR LETTER OF OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE) NEXT STEP IS TO ASK STATE DEPARTMENT TO AUTHORIZE DEFENSE TO PREPARE LOA. DUE TO CURRENT ARMS SALES CEILING (WHICH APPLIES TO FMS BUT NOT TO COMMERCIAL SALES) IT IS UNLIKELY THAT AN LOA COULD BE OFFERED FOR SIGNATURE PRIOR TO FY 1979.

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4. PM/SAS POUCHING ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFO TO POST. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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